

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEETING ON THE PART II PROGRAM FOR STRENGTHENING
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE CONTROL OF
CHEMICALS, JUNE 21-23.

REF: PARIS 17498

SUMMARY: SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES & THE EC COMMISSION MET IN
RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION ISSUED BY THE OECD TO
PARTICIPATE IN A PART II PROGRAM ON CONTROL OF TOXIC
CHEMICALS (ENV/D/88). AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BY 16
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COUNTRIES TO MODIFIED STATUTES ON THE CONTROL OF CHEMICALS
(ANNEX A TO ENV/D/88) IN WHICH THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
WAS CHARGED WITH TAKING DUE ACCOUNT OF THE ON-GOING PART I
WORK IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP, SUBMITTING TO THE OECD COUNCIL
THE ANNUAL BUDGET, DETERMINING SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF
PARTICIPANTS, AND PROVIDING REPORTS & PROPOSALS OF THE WORK
OF THE PART II PROGRAM,

SUCH REPORTS & PROPOSALS ALSO TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. THE PARTICIPANTS THEN AGREED TO A PART II PROGRAM INVOLVING L.74 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS SUPPORTING THE GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICES & CONFIDENTIALITY PROJECTS (DOWN FROM THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED 3.8 MILLION FRANCS & 4 PROJECTS WHICH ALSO INCLUDED WORK ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS). EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ACCORDING TO ITS OECD PERCENTAGE BASED ON RELATIVE G.N.P. THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTED TO APPROXIMATELY 436,000 FRANCS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR 25 PERCENT CEILING. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WERE: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, FRG, JAPAN, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, SPAIN, UNITED KINGDOM & THE U.S. THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ALSO PARTICIPATED. OPENING STATEMENTS REVEALED THAT THE U.S., CANADA, U.K., SWEDEN AND AUSTRALIA WERE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF THE PART II EFFORT. FRG INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT ITS SUPPORT WAS LIMITED TO 320,000 FRANCS. FRANCE'S CONTRIBUTION WAS ALSO LIMITED TO 250,000 FRANCS, LESS THAN ITS OECD PERCENTAGE. SWEDEN, AND AUSTRALIA EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE MORE THAN THEIR REGULAR SCALE OF OECD CONTRIBUTIONS. THE U.S. AGREED TO A 25 PERCENT CONTRIBUTION, BUT HAD UNCLASSIFIED

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RESERVATIONS ON THE TOTAL MAGNITUDE OF THE OECD PROPOSAL. JAPAN, WHILE GREATLY INTERESTED, COULD NOT CONTRIBUTE SINCE THIS REQUIRED APPROVAL OF THE DIET, WHOSE NEXT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1979. THE CEC INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE 50,000 FRANCS. DISCUSSION BEGAN ON THE LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTES WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.

2. THE SECOND DAY OF THE MEETING BEGAN WITH A CAUCUS CALLED BY THE CEC WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION ON LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTES PERTAINING TO RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE PART II PROGRAM, THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE & THE OECD COUNCIL. THE PRIMARY DIFFERENCE WAS BETWEEN THOSE WHO HELD THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD REPORT TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, AS OPPOSED TO THOSE (US) WHO HELD THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD REPORT TO THE OECD COUNCIL. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS REACHED, USING LANGUAGE AGREED TO AT THE 22ND SESSION OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, FAVORING THE U.S. VIEWS. THE REPORTING ROLE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WAS FURTHER OUTLINED IN THE

STATUTES BY STATING THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHALL PREPARE THE ANNUAL PROGRAM OF THE PROJECT, (TAKING DUE ACCOUNT OF ON-GOING WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION), THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND, WHEN NECESSARY, THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS, AND SHALL SUBMIT PROPOSALS EACH YEAR TO THE OECD COUNCIL. REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE OECD COUNCIL, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY REPORTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. THE LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE SECRETARIAT WILL PROVIDE FINAL LANGUAGE REFLECTING THESE AGREEMENTS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE FOLLOWING THE MEETING. WITH REGARD TO THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PART II PROGRAM, THE LIMITED CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRG & FRANCE ACTED TO DAMPEN THE PROPOSED

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES. THE U.S. WAS SILENT ON THIS POINT, HOLDING THE VIEW THAT THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL OF 3.8 MILLION FRANCS WAS CONSIDERABLY TOO HIGH. THE SECRETARIAT WAS THEN INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE A SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 16 OF THE 17 COUNTRIES (JAPAN EXCLUDED) FOR DISCUSSION ON THE THIRD DAY, WITH THE OVERALL FRAME OF REFERENCE TO BE PEGGED AT THE 320,000 FRANCS FRG CONTRIBUTION EQUIVALENT TO THEIR NORMAL OECD-PERCENTAGE, AND THE OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE FIXED TO THEIR NORMAL OECD PERCENTAGES. THE FINAL SUM WOULD THEN DETERMINE THE SIZE OF THE PART II PROGRAM.

3. THE THIRD DAY OF THE MEETING SAW A BRIEF RETURN TO THE DISCUSSION OF STATUTES AGREED ON DURING THE PREVIOUS SESSION, WITHOUT CHANGING THE FINAL OUTCOME FOR THE REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS. THE SECRETARIAT THEN PRESENTED THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS PEGGED TO THE FRG LEVEL AS FOLLOWS: AUSTRALIA 65,395; AUSTRIA 27,029; BELGIUM 48,130; CANADA 128,174; DENMARK 25,460; FINLAND 19,880; FRANCE 239,433; FRG 320,000; NETHERLANDS 63,128; NEW ZEALAND 11,160; NORWAY 20,752; SPAIN 78,997; SWEDEN 50,397; SWITZERLAND 44,991; U.K. 164,970; U.S. 435,967. THE EC WAS NOT LISTED, ALTHOUGH THEY OFFERED 50,000 FRANCS. JAPAN WAS EXCLUDED SINCE THEY COULD NOT COMMIT FUNDS AT THIS TIME. THE SECRETARIAT STATED THAT THE NUMBERS WERE NOT PRECISE, BUT THAT THEY INDICATED A PROGRAM LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY L.74 MILLION FRANCS. THIS WOULD ALLOW ONLY FOR THE GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICES AND CONFIDENTIALITY PROJECTS. THESE PROJECTS WERE THE TWO HIGHEST PRIORITIES OF THE U.S. THE U.S. AND FRANCE RESPECTIVELY HAD VOLUNTEERED AS LEAD COUNTRIES FOR THESE PROJECTS ON THE FIRST

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FIRST DAY OF THE MEETING. AFTER A PROLONGED DISCUSSION, THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS WAS AGREED UPON, AS WELL AS AN AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL WHICH DIRECTED THAT THE COUNCIL BE ASKED TO CONSIDER REQUESTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FRG WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING AN AUGMENTED BUDGET FOR THE FIRST YEAR UNDER WHICH THE FRG WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNDERTAKING PART OF THE PROGRAM RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL GLOSSARY.

4. THE NEXT SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WILL HAVE THE SECRETARIAT PROVIDE THE PARTICIPANTS WITH THE FINAL LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTES AND A REFINED SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OECD IS SCHEDULED TO MEET THE FIRST WEEK IN JULY, AT WHICH TIME THE RESULTS OF THE PART II MEETING ON CHEMICALS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ADDRESSED.

5. ACTION: MISSION REQUESTS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS ON U.S. POSITION REGARDING SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS, REVISED SCOPE OF PART II PROGRAM, ROLE OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF OUTCOME OF MEETING REPORTED IN THIS MESSAGE.
SALZMAN UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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